



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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In Reply Refer To
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EMS TRANSMISSION: 5/15/06
Information Bulletin No. **CA-2006-015**

To: Field Managers, Bakersfield, Folsom, Hollister, Redding, and Ukiah

From: State Director

Subject: Designation of Critical Habitat for the California Red-Legged Frog, *Rana aurora draytonii*

On April 13, 2006, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) published a final rule (*Federal Register* 71:19244-19346) determining critical habitat for the California red-legged frog. (See Attachment 1.) The final rule indicates that the following Critical Habitat Units overlap with BLM land: SNB-2 (Paicines Reservoir and Tres Pinos Creek), SNB-3 (Pinnacles National Monument), and SLO-1A-B (Cholame). An overlay of the Service's GIS critical habitat layer with BLM lands reveals that there are 258 acres of overlap in Bakersfield, 1,646 acres of overlap in Folsom, and 55 acres of overlap in Hollister. This final rule excluded several areas that were previously designated as critical habitat for this species. The BLM lands that were proposed as critical habitat at Spivey Pond (Critical Habitat Unit ELD-1) were excluded from critical habitat designation based on the development and approval of the Spivey Pond Management Plan.

Publication of this final rule imposes the substantive and procedural requirements of Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act with respect to all discretionary BLM actions that "may affect" designated critical habitat for the California red-legged frog. Effective May 13, 2006, we must comply with the interagency consultation procedures in 50 CFR 402.14 to ensure not only that any actions we authorize, fund, and carry out do not jeopardize the continued existence of this species, but also that they do not destroy or adversely modify designated critical habitat. Ongoing or recently completed consultations on projects or land use plans that overlap designated critical habitat for the California red-legged frog should be reviewed, and updated if appropriate, to ensure that critical habitat has been addressed.

Questions regarding this final rule may be directed to Ed Lorentzen at (916) 978-4646.

Signed by:
Mike Pool
State Director

Authenticated by:
Richard A. Erickson
Records Management

Attachment

1 - Final Rule Determining Critical Habitat for the California Red-legged Frog (103 pp.)

Distribution

CA-930 (Attn: Paul Roush)